



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

**SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS**

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAMME

**POLS 208: POLITICAL CHANGE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: Tuesday, 3.10-4.00; Thursday, 3.10-4.00

Venue: MY LT 220

Tutorials: Tuesday, 4.10-5.00; Thursday, 4.10-5.00

Venue: MY LT 220

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Professor Stephen Levine

Tutor: Caitlin Daugherty-Kelly (email: daughecait@myvuw.ac.nz)

Room No: MY 534

Phone: 463-6099

Email: Email: Stephen.Levine@vuw.ac.nz

Note: Emails about POLS 208 *must* have POLS 208 in the subject line; if they don't, they may be deleted as spam.

Office hours: Mondays 3:00-4.00 and Fridays 11.00-12.00. Other appointment hours can be arranged by email (or by speaking with Professor Levine after class).

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding. Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course will examine constitutional issues and broader political change in a number of Southeast Asian states. Students have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of political institutions and wider political trends in countries with very diverse systems of government, including Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Burma, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students passing this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate a good understanding of basic features of the governments and political systems of the eight Southeast Asian countries covered in the course
2. describe aspects of regional cooperation in Southeast Asia
3. summarise New Zealand's interests in Southeast Asia and its relations with Southeast Asian countries and regional institutions covered in the course
4. critique scholarly publications on aspects of Southeast Asian politics
5. write a well-organised, well-written, well-researched essay on an aspect of Southeast Asian politics
6. explain a feature of Southeast Asian politics by executing a well-organised, well-prepared oral presentation to a tutorial group.

Teaching format

The course has two 50-minute lectures per week. The second scheduled hour is for tutorials. Each student needs to join one of the two tutorial groups and may do so by attending a tutorial and advising the tutor.

Lectures: The lectures are an essential element in learning about the subject matter of this course. *Note:* cell phones should be turned off (i.e., not be in use) during lectures (or tutorials). Laptops may be used during lectures (or tutorials) only for the purpose of taking notes.

Tutorials: The tutorials provide further opportunities for learning about the subject matter of this course through discussion, question-and-answer, and tutorial presentations. Further information about the tutorial presentations will be provided at tutorials.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50% in POLS 208 each student must:

1. submit one essay due **5 pm, Friday 16 October**
2. sit four in-class tests
3. give a tutorial presentation

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester, approximately 13 hours a week across the trimester. This includes two hours of lectures and one hour of tutorials per week.

Preparation and attendance at class meetings: 36 hours

Tutorial presentation: 4 hours

Essays: 100 hours

In-class tests: 60 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Four in-class tests – 30 July; 20 August; 24 September; 15 October	60%	1-4	1 test every 3 weeks
2	Essay (2000-3000 words)	40%	1, 5	16 October

The **essay**, worth 40%, is due on Friday, 16 October and is between 2000-3000 words. The assignment involves selection of a topic on some aspect of Southeast Asian politics (relating to the eight countries covered in the course). **A one-paragraph statement of the topic being investigated needs to be submitted in order for approval of the topic to be given.**

The **in-class tests**, worth 60% (15% per test), will be held every three weeks. The in-class tests assess students' understanding of aspects of Southeast Asian politics, drawing on information presented in the readings and in lectures and tutorials.

Submission and return of work

The essay should be submitted through the office essay drop-off point, Murphy Room 518, together with completed cover sheet which is available from the office. The essay should also be submitted to Professor Levine by email (as a Word attachment).

The essay will be returned in tutorials. If students fail to attend these times, they may collect their essay from the Office, Murphy Room 518 between the hours of 2.00 and 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday and must show their Student ID card before collection.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions will be granted under exceptional circumstances (for example, illness or family-related personal circumstances). The course coordinator should be approached prior to the assessment deadline (either by email or in person). The circumstances under which an extension will be considered are outlined in section 3.2.1 of the Assessment Handbook.

(See: www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf).

Penalties

Please note that essays submitted on topics that have not been approved by Professor Levine will not be assessed.

Where extensions have not been granted, students will be penalised for late submission of written work – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days.** Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary. Extensions on deadlines for written work will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.

Set texts

There is no set text. A selection of readings from academic journals (and a weekly reading schedule) will be distributed.

Recommended reading

Damien Kingsbury, *Southeast Asia: A Political Profile*, 2nd edition, Oxford University Press, 2005.
Justin Wintle, *Perfect Hostage: A Life of Aung San Suu Kyi* – on 3-day loan in the VUW Library
Anthony L. Smith (ed.), *Southeast Asia and New Zealand – A History of Regional and Bilateral Relations*, Wellington: NZ Institute of International Affairs and Victoria University Press, 2005.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to POLS 208 for 2015 include a weekly programme of readings, as well as structured discussion in tutorial meetings.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades

- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz